

# Redford Anxious to Get Back to Work.

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**Editor's Note:** This is the first of a two-part series stemming from an exclusive interview with Robert Redford by The Daily Herald at his Sundance Resort.

By JOSEPHINE

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Herald Staff Writer

Two years have passed since Robert Redford produced his Academy Award-winning motion picture "Ordinary People," and he is anxious to get back to work.

With less than a week in between, Redford made "The Electric Horseman," "Brubaker" and "Ordinary People," then he took a year off. One year stretched into two, and Redford is now working with writers on eight scripts for future movies.

"This is a pattern I've followed for several years, working on several films in a row, then taking a year off to reassess things and spend more time with my family," he told The Daily Herald at his Sundance resort.

Redford has spent part of the two years at his Sundance home that he maintains as his legal residence.

He hasn't decided which movies he'll produce first. Right now he is working on a script for the Utah book "The Giant Joshua," as well as scripts dealing with the turn-of-the-century Irish patriot Michael Collins, a science-fiction movie and a political comedy on the New Right he is doing with Gary Trudeau, creator of the comic strip "Doonesbury."

Although he's had time to

relax, his past two years have not been idle. "I've still had the Sundance Film Institute that is growing rapidly, and my Resource Management Institute," he explained. He sponsored the Resource Management Institute at the University of Idaho and Washington State University to emphasize environmental development.

"It has to do with balance. I'm not anti-development; I'm pro-orderly development." He said the idea that he is anti-development is "a strange distortion of facts."

He said he has been accused of being pro-environment and against jobs. "That is untrue. I'm for balance, but is anybody being totally respectful of the environment?" he asked.

Redford said he happens to be a great admirer of Brigham Young. "His planning, his vision, his strength of mind, his ability to lead."

He said he came across Young's definition of stewardship and his instructions to the brethren. He said they should not destroy something they can't replace. He said to develop your minds, your gardens, your vineyards, but not at the expense of what God gave us as a gift, which happens to be this land.

"He said to develop with ultimate respect for the land. God gave us a gift which just happens to include seven national parks, and they are gifts. That is a gift, and let's not abuse them. There is a way to develop. We have to make sure we enhance this place as we go so it will be a place, in Brigham Young's words, for divine beings to

come to," Redford said.

He said what Brigham Young was talking about is balance, and that is what is conspicuously lacking here today. "He had it; it's all right there in his words. Also Joseph Smith talked about restraint and said these are God's gifts and we are stewards over them, and it is not our decision to destroy them. And all the other church leaders have said the same thing at the general conferences.

"We have a responsibility to account for what we do with this land. That doesn't mean preserving the whole thing, but it means carefully developing it. I'm saddened that that instruction is simply forgotten in the interest of making a dollar."

Redford said he was thrilled to see the LDS Church step forward on the MX missile because what they seemed to be doing is speaking about stewardship, and nuclear proliferation is hardly good stewardship. "It's insanity, in my mind."

"When you're a target, a lot of labels fly around. I'm very much against labels. I think it is a very unhealthy, destructive tendency," he said.

"When people start using easy labels, like 'liberal' and tossing it around like it is some sort of terrible thing, then it is just a very narrow, unconstructive thing to do," he said.

Redford said he sees that, because it has happened to him.

"People wouldn't listen to what I said about something, but they'd listen to the labels thrown at me, like environ-

mentalist, or liberal, or movie star, or sex symbol. I've always thought that was a fairly wild distortion. But when people throw labels, very often they stick and there isn't a whole lot you can do about it."

Redford said that is what happened to him when he campaigned against the freeway up Provo Canyon. "If I have a complaint about it, it is that the label stuck deeper and longer than what I said about the issue."

He said he has been talking about "balance" for a long time. "The way they planned the highway, it would have taken away a local jewel. I spoke to the issue, that's all."

Redford, who campaigned for unsuccessful Congressional candidate Ted Wilson, recalls that he made the movie "The Candidate" several years ago "in a mild moral outrage."

"Nothing has changed," he commented. "Candidates are still bent on creating the illusion of effectiveness rather than being able to rest on their own laurels."

"The film had to do with my disillusionment about the political system turning into one big, long media event. It was a film showing that the political process of getting people elected in this country has turned more toward the cosmetics of performance rather than the substance."

"That was purely and simply the message of the film, and look where we are today. I'm rather amused that nothing has changed."

Redford said he plans more political films, particularly the one with Gary Trudeau.



Robert Redford



# Briefs

## Cloud Seeding Starts Today

A cloud seeding program throughout the Beehive State began today and runs through April.

At its November meeting the Utah Board of Water Resources authorized \$183,000 for the state's share in costs for winter cloud seeding in

southern and central counties of the state.

Total cost of the project is about \$281,000 and Emery, Sanpete, Sevier, Wayne, Piute, Washington, Iron, Millard, Juab, Beaver, San Juan, Tooele, Carbon and Grand Counties will pay the difference.

## Smith Named 13th in Monopoly

A Provo woman who won the Utah state Monopoly championship after entering the Provo tournament "just for the fun of it" placed third in the national Monopoly tournament held in Washington D.C.

Kathleen Smith, who accompanied her husband, Craig, to the Provo City Monopoly Tournament, ended up with playing in, and winning the tournament. Later, she was informed while she was in the hospital during the birth of the couple's son, even, that she had won the Utah State championship, making her eligible for the

national tournament.

Parker Brothers flew Kathleen and her family to Washington, D.C. for the weekend of competition on the couple's first wedding anniversary Nov. 6.

Champions from each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia plus the four regional champions from last year competed in the tournament. Two 90-minute rounds were held on 11 tables with five contestants at each.

Six-week-old Steven received more press coverage than everyone but the eventual national champion, according to the Provo City Recreation Department.

## Nephi Wants Garden Water

Nephi has applied to the Utah Board of Water Resources for funds to construct a lawn and garden watering system within the City of Nephi.

The system would replace the existing ditch system in Nephi and reduce the use of irrigation water for lawn and garden watering. The proposed project is estimated to cost over \$1.5 million.

Nephi Irrigation Company

has water rights on Salt Creek which allow the irrigation of 11,760 acres. The irrigation company also has several wells which are pumped to supplement Salt Creek Flows.

A feasibility study of the proposed project will be made by the water agency, the Utah Department of Natural Resources and Energy for a decision is made on the application.

# Novelist Teaches Kids How to Write About Life

By DAWN TRACY  
Herald Staff Writer

A published author taught Mountain View High School students last week how to write a short story, assigned them the task of observing people and then of writing the tale.

"Tickets" to the special class were completed dialogues and character sketches the novelist collected at the door before the class started.

"Fiction is an account of an untrue incident, arranged in a communicative way that reveals truth," Ron Carlson, novelist, told students last week.

Carlson, who has had two novels published, several short stories, has written articles for the New York Times and Village Voice and can be read in the current issue of Utah Holiday magazine, says students are always surprised when he explains that he is a novelist.

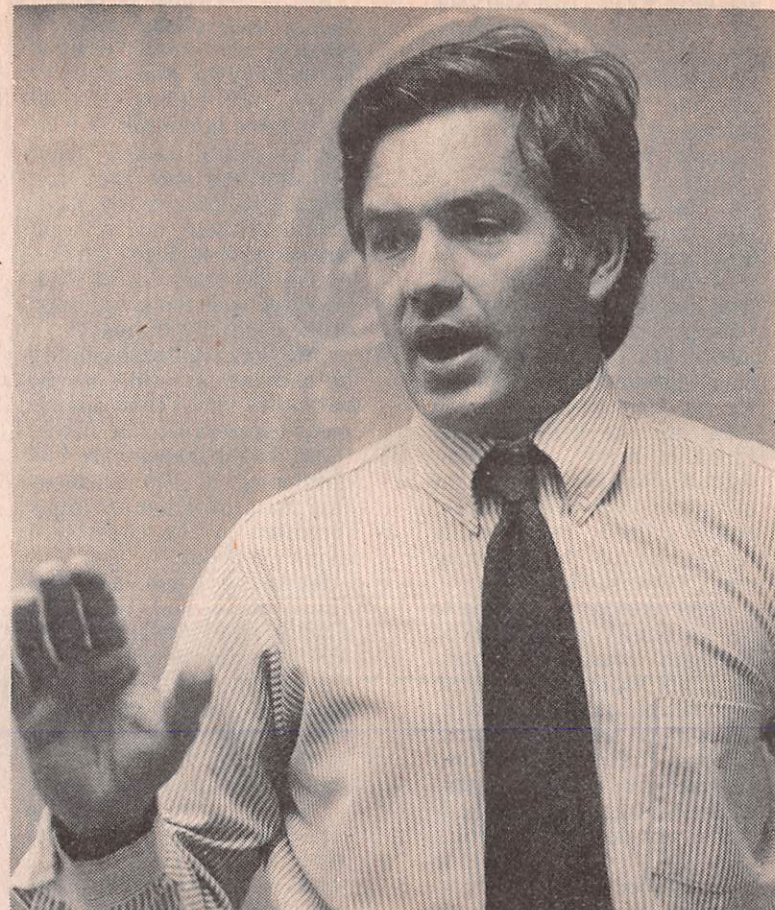
"The first thing students usually ask me is what do I really do for a living," Carlson, who lives in Salt Lake City, says. "Many of them have never met a writer so it's difficult for them to understand that someone can actually write for a living. It's often a brand new thought."

Carlson's week-long course at Mountain View was sponsored by the Utah Arts Council.

It is part of a program in which sculptors, painters, writers and other artists teach high-school students throughout the state about their particular craft.

The Arts Council pays half the cost of the course and local school districts, schools, parent groups and PTA's make up the other half.

"When an artist teaches, all of a sudden novelists, sculptors and painters aren't mysterious entities anymore," says Carlson. "They become what they really are — men and women who are working hard and struggling. We share what we've learned about the creating



Steve Heiner Photo

## Novelist Ron Carlson stresses action for stories.

scribing one or two characters in the story.

Carlson then explains that characters reveal themselves through their actions and he adds that a character should be put in a crucial situation in which his vulnerability is revealed.

"We cannot see what makes up a character until we observe him in a stressful situation," says Carlson. "One incident will tell me more

around the bush, we use lots of sarcasm and we hint a lot. But in a story, the characters are supposed to express themselves."

On the last day of writing, students are to create images they can later use in their story. They are to write what it feels like to be hungry, or to be afraid, or any other incident in which two or more senses are aroused.

"All good writing appeals to our

# New TV Channel

A wireless alternative to television is being offered to customers in the Provo — Orem area.

Centauri Communications is offering local residents an all-news channel beamed by microwave from a broadcast location at Utah Lake, according to Rick Foote, president of the company.

"This is exactly the same as Channel One in Salt Lake City," Foote said. The system does not require stringing cable from house to house, but it does need a special antenna and a cable connecting the antenna to the television set.

There is a charge for installation of the antenna Foote said, and there is a monthly subscription fee of \$15.95. The channel offers more than 24-hours a day.

"Ninety-nine percent of the movies have appeared in theaters," Foote said.

Subscriptions are currently available to Provo and Orem residents only, but Foote said he anticipates increasing the coverage area.

## NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY PUBLIC NOTICE

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